The Middlebury Campus

Vol. 105, No. 20 | Wednesday, April 1 (+3), 2007 | Since 1905

Ilhan Kim

Even current students have taken up the brutal spirit of a new admissions policy that accepts prospective students based on their success in a violent cage match. Here, seniors re-enact the winning moves of their favorite "prospies."

Admissions looks to fight club

By Ryan Rung
News Editor

In a new strategy designed to raise the College's admissions profile, College officials announced Monday that the final spot in the Class of 2011 will be filled by the victor of a round-robin cage match tournament. The competition, to be held in Kenyon Arena this weekend, will involve roughly 50 top applicants.

According to Dean of Admissions Bob Clagett, the idea for the fight system emerged out of recommendations made in the Strategic Plan.

"With admissions getting more competitive all the time, we had to find a way to distinguish ourselves from other institutions," said Clagett. "What better way to do that than with a high-profile, high-energy slugfest?"

This year alone, the College received over 7,000 regular-decision applications from students nationwide and around the world — a 13 percent jump from last year. Meanwhile, the College saw an increase in early-decision applications by seven percent.

To attract more matriculates from the expanded pool, Clagett announced this February that just over 100 special applicants would receive all-expenses-paid invitations to visit the College. According to Clagett, 52 students have already accepted the invitation and will arrive at the College by April 5. After touring the campus and

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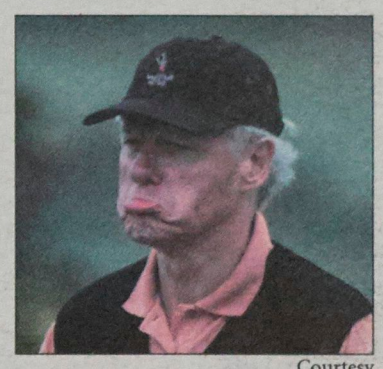
Clinton canceling planned address

By Bennie Bradlie
Investigative Reporter

President Bill Clinton will not deliver this year's commencement address, College officials disclosed over the break. Communicating his cancellation to President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz, Clinton said he regretted the turn of events, but the unexpected strength of Sen. Barack Obama's presidential campaign would require him to devote his energy to campaigning for his wife, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton.

"President Clinton is extremely disappointed that he will be unable to attend the Middlebury commencement," said a spokesperson with the William Jefferson Clinton Foundation, "but Hillary wears the pants in the Clinton household and the pants said 'No.'"

The announcement means it is now again "up in the air" who will address graduating seniors at the May commencement ceremony. After learning of Clinton's cancellation, administrators and members of the Honorary Degree committee convened for an emergency meeting to plan recruitment strategies for alternative speakers.



Courtesy

Bill was exceptionally disappointed when Hillary said he could not go to Middlebury in May.

A wide array of names were proposed at the meeting and each administrator present agreed to court a specific nominee. While the names of nominees were not released, Liebowitz confirmed that Secretary of the College John Emerson was attempting to book the Fergilicious recording artist Stacy Ann Ferguson, who has a "compelling" life story, and Dean of the College Tim Spears was working to recruit his long-time idol Chuck Norris, whose superhuman

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New muppet professors to offer Modern Meep

Courtesy Fozzie Bear

Dr. Bunsen Honeydew (right) and assistant Beaker (lower left).

By Rizzo Rat-a-tat-tat-o
Staff Writer

The College will offer Modern Meep as a language course option to students beginning in the fall of 2007. Administrators decided to approve the new language addition after the success of a grassroots petition led by two off-campus science researchers, Dr. Bunsen Honeydew and his research assistant Beaker.

"Maybe you don't have tens of millions of people around the world who speak Meep but two people in the United States speak it and that's pretty important," said Ilhan Kim '07, who abandoned his student campaign for a Korean

See Shrieks, page 2

Janson charged with high-crimes

Ilhan Kim

Although the investigation took Public Safety several years to complete, leads carved in Gifford desks ultimately led them to the legendary culprit.

By Kevin G. Ahmed
Associate Editor

The College has fined former student Nick Janson $61,495 after an investigation by Public Safety found him responsible for "unauthorized desecration of college property." The fine is a result of multiple carvings into desks and tables detailing characteristics of Nick Janson.

"We were able to identify Mr. Janson as the perpetrator of these crimes from the leads provided by the carvings," said Alice Brady, assistant director of Public Safety and the head of the investigation. "We knew the suspect was taller than Yao Ming, landed on the moon and was adopted by Angelina Jolie. From there, it was just a process of elimination."

Janson, who currently is a trapeze artist with Cirque du Soleil, denies that he was involved in the carvings, which can be mainly found in classrooms and restrooms in Munroe Hall.

"I had nothing to do with the vandalism done to college property," said Janson. "If students want to share my exploits with others by writing it on desks, it's not my fault. Hopefully, students who read them will learn to dream big and accomplish great things."

Janson also said that he plans to not pay the fine and appeal the punishment through the judicial system if he has to.

"I spend most of my money buying gold-plated diapers," said Janson. "I've got no extra money to pay some stupid fine. And students can write *that* on desks."

Janson later added, "Please don't write that on desks. I don't want to get fined any more money."

Although the College has officially closed its investigation into the Nick Janson case, there is still an ongoing inquiry into who is responsible for the Spike/Crusher carvings into Proctor Dining Hall trays.

"Right now, we only have a few clues to go on," said Public Safety officer Marcus Jackson, who is part of the investigation into the vandalism. "We do know that Crusher hates to practice and Spike lost Gamaliel Painter's cane but, other than that, we're pretty lost."

Despite the charges against Janson, Brady does not expect the carvings to stop. Instead, she has already seen Janson's fine spark a rash of new writings.

"We've seen a few 'Free Nick Janson' signs on bathroom stall doors and desks in Gifford Lecture Hall," she said. "However, we've used sandpaper on them so stu-

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this week

it's only books now
Amherst one-ups Middlebury and bans the entire internet, page 3

Elle <3 Cook 4eva
The Campus' newest columnist on the pleasure and intelligence of her Commons, page 9

College bans 8 a.m. classes
O.K., not really, but wouldn't it be great if they did? page 17

middbriefs

By Kevin G. Ahmed, Chuck Chant and Ryan Rung

College adding sand, water to Battell Beach

College officials announced Monday that Battell Beach would soon be converted into an actual beach, with construction to add sand and water to the area to begin in June. The proposed creation of a beach stems from a recommendation of the Strategic Plan designed to "make Middlebury feel more like Malibu...with only half as many beach bums."

The proposed construction would create a sand beach in front of Battell Hall, running from the back of Forest Hall all the way to Coffrin Hall, with a half-mile wide lake running to Ross Commons. To cross the lake, the College will provide students with skidoos. However, students will be required to provide their MiddID cards and $50 as a deposit to rent the skidoo.

"We figured that since much of the East Coast will soon be underwater due to global warming," said Frank Stein, assistant dean of Facilities, "we might as well lead the way and turn Middlebury into 'Waterworld.' Hopefully Kevin Costner won't show up, though."

Some students believe that the lake will help community members forget about the cold winter weather.

"I think an actual beach would make Middlebury feel a lot warmer," said sophomore Harry Dirk. "It already kind of feels like that, what with all the girls wearing skirts and boots in the winter, so a beach would really add to the summer atmosphere."

Middlebury to rename at donor's request

As a result of the $500 million gift to the College from Mike's Auto Towing, a car towing service on Elm Street in town, Middlebury College will now officially be called Mike's Auto Towing College.

"We're thrilled that Mike gave us this huge gift," said President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz. "The only stipulation is that we rename the College after Mike's towing business, and that seemed like a pretty good deal to us."

Liebowitz stressed that nothing about the College is changing except its name. He said the change will take place immediately, and that changes were already being made to signs that have the College's name printed on them. On Saturday, crews covered over the words, "The strength of the hills are His also" on the façade of Mead Chapel with a banner that read, "Welcome to Mike's Auto Towing College."

Coincidentally, the $500 million gift exactly matched the entire fundraising goal set by Liebowitz earlier this year.

Dining halls replacing stoves with solar ovens

Three of the College's four dining halls will soon begin using energy-efficient solar ovens for all cooking purposes, according to Matthew Biette, Director of Dining Services.

This summer, Proctor, Atwater and Ross Dining Halls will toss out their stoves, microwaves, and conventional ovens in favor of the greener technology. One giant solar oven will be installed in Ross to serve the masses, but hundreds of small, individual-sized ovens will be installed in Proctor to foster individual creativity.

"We know how much it means to Proctor fans to be able to customize their own meals," said Biette. "I bet a lot of them would marry a panini machine if they got the chance. At the same time, we understand that Ross residents need convenience. Hell, half of them can't even be bothered to get dressed for breakfast on weekends."

Atwater's grass roof replaced with mullet

By Chuck Chant
News Editor

The living roof that crowns Atwater dining hall will now officially be referred to as a "Chuck Norris hairstyle", Atwater Commons administrators announced Monday. The dining hall, completed in 2004, was originally supposed to have a roof with shrubbery that would increase energy efficiency and lower heating costs, but the roof has become unnecessary and unsightly in the three years since it was built, and the Commons administration plans to replace it with a mullet modeled after Chuck Norris.

"You know what, the rest of this campus is so freaking energy efficient that a few plants on some dining hall roof are just a pathetic empty gesture," said Atwater Commons Hair and Style Consultant Jonathan Helvetica. "Plus it looks kinda stupid. We thought it would be much cooler if we just put Chuck Norris' hair up there."

It turns out that there will be quite a lot of "hair up there," according to Facilities Services, who will install the 2.4 trillion strands of hair, enough to make about 3,000 Chuck Norris wigs.

With its new Chuck Norris hairstyle, College officials predict that Atwater dining hall will make the College more popular among applicants, because the new hairstyle means Atwater will now have "balls."

"Come on, dude, think about the impact this will have on applications," said Dean of Admissions Bob Clagett. "What high school senior wouldn't want to go to Middlebury now that we've got this? I mean, honestly. A tribute to Chuck Norris means we've got balls. And who wouldn't rather go to a school with balls? Atwater head chef Pudgy Paco added that the new hairstyle will increase Atwater's appeal to students as well.

"All the dining halls have local eggs and local milk. Proctor has a Panini machine, and Ross has pizza. But who's got Chuck Norris? That's right, Atwater's got Chuck Norris. And Chuck Norris has got balls."

Courtesy

An architect/hairstylists vision for the new Atwater Dining Hall roof once contractors can remove the ratty grass installation and implant a faux Chuck Norris mullet cap.

Asked about the cost, Helvetica said the makeover will be completed with funds that Atwater Commons already has available, partly because most of the hair will come from livestock in the Champlain Valley, driving its cost down.

"In keeping with Middlebury's tradition of supporting local farmers and sustainable agriculture, we're just gonna snip some hair from the cows and whatever other animals we can find out there," he said. "Of course we'll pay the farmers, but it will be considerably cheaper than buying hair directly from Chuck Norris. Plus that would take forever, 'cause I don't think his hair grows very fast."

Several problems arose during the planning of the new hairstyle, including how to attach the hair and how to prevent birds from building nests in it. All but one problem were solved in the final design, Hoyinski said.

"The only problem we have remaining is how to deal with people who are obsessed with Chuck Norris jokes," she said, referring to the jokes that have spread over the Internet in the last few years, making fun of Chuck Norris' macho image.

But Helvetica said he doesn't think the jokes will be that big of problem.

"Actually, I think they're hilarious," he said, "and if people think up new ones about the dining hall's hairstyle, I say let them have their fun."

Sara Granstrom '07, who lives in an Atwater suite with a view of the dining hall roof, said she approved the makeover and that many of her friends do as well.

"Chuck Norris is totally my favorite actor," she said. "He is so hot."

Shrieks of meep soon to be heard on campus

Continued from page 1

program to support the two muppet scientists.

As the world's only English-speaker with Meep fluency, Honeydew will join the Middlebury faculty to launch the new Meep Department's two inaugural course, MEEP101: Intro to Modern Meep and a first-year linguistics seminar, Discovering Meep: Language Without Words.

Beaker, who communicates almost exclusively by Meep, will serve as a teaching assistant for the classes.

Although Meep only consists of shrill, frantic shrieks such as "Mee-mee-mee-mee!," the performative aspect of the language will ultimately require a complete four-year program of study with major and minor options for advanced students.

"What makes it such a beautiful and expressive language, is that the meaning of any given phrase is communicated almost entirely through the tone and tempo," said Honeydew in an interview at MuppetLabs. "It really would not matter if you were saying 'poop, poop, poop,' it's all about how you say it."

Honeydew noted that most of the passion behind Beaker's Meep speeches was inspired by his assistant's enthusiasm for science. Beaker is most vocal as the unfortunate victim of Honeydew's failed experiments, which have led to his being shrunk, blown-up and chased by wild animals.

To help his Middlebury students find their "inner Meep," Honeydew will open a laboratory in the basement of Johnson Memorial Building.

College administrators privately disclosed that they were installing Honeydew in the "butt-ugly" building with the hope that one of his experiments would go awry and lead to the facility's demise.

Despite the excitement surrounding the announcement of another new language, some members of the College community criticized the expansion.

"Frankly I think it is more than a little bit ridiculous," said Middlebury Professor of Pig Latin Aulpay Imsleurpay. "Meep isn't even a language, it's just a series of nervous utterances from a traumatized muppet who can't form real words."

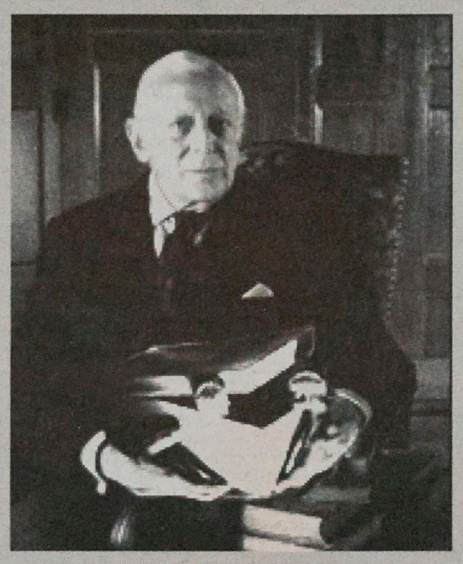
Imsleurpay said there was a point at which the College might have made its language offerings too comprehensive.

"I think it is time we step back and say 'ixnay on the owthgray," he said. "If we have all this money lying around, maybe it's time we started building high-rise condos for Brainerd or offering champagne and lobster at Proctor."

Supporters of Meep pointed to outside sources that reflected the growing importance of the language.

The U.S. government's National Security Languages Initiative recently revised its list of "critical languages" to include Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Hindi, Farsi, Korean, Japanese, Russian and Meep.

"If you look at that list, it doesn't include French, or Spanish, or Italian or half the languages Middlebury teaches," said Kim. "And what we're doing with Meep will not only stop terrorism and bring world peace, but it will give that adorable muppet some friends to talk to."



Dear Good Readers,

For months, our writers and editors have labored, reporting unknown facts and uncovering great truths, to reach the moment when we should have some quantity of journalistic dignity to shed. Today we remove our skimpy coat of dignity to indulge in a week of madness.

Some of the humor we present you is enlightening, reflecting the pressing social contradictions before our generation. Some of it represents a tribute to our friend and comrade, Chuck Norris. Most of it is simply over-the-top, meaningless, and frequently unfunny nonsense.

For those of you who enjoy our ruddy humor, feast on this issue! Like Labor Day and fruit salad at Ross, April Fool's editions only come once a year.

For those of you who read this issue and lose faith in the freedom of the press. We thank you for bearing with us. We shall resume regular programming next week.

Special thanks to our hard-working April Fool's Committee: Zamir Ahmed, Tom Brant, Jay Dolan, Brian Fung, Chris Heinrich, Ilhan Kim. Laura Kuhl, Jack Lysohir and Jeff Patterson.

Benjamin J. Salkowe

Colosseum to be constructed at admissions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

meeting with academic department heads, the visitors will be paired with current first-year students, with whom they will attend class and eat in the dining halls.

"We really want them to get the full experience of what it's like to be a Middlebury College student before pitting them against each other," said Secretary of the College John Emerson, who is responsible for overseeing changes made under the Strategic Plan. "That way, they know what they're competing for. Then we get to see which of them wants it badly enough to fight tooth and nail for it."

The competition, which is slated to begin on Saturday, will be open to the rest of the Middlebury community. Regular admission to the cage match will cost $5, according to Emerson. Those holding College identification will receive a discount price of $2. All ticket sales will help cover the cost of bringing the visitors to campus, said Clagett.

"It's quite an expensive undertaking," he said. "I doubt that this has been tried anywhere else."

"We're breaking new ground here," said Emerson, in agreement with Clagett. "It's an experiment, more than anything. The hope is that by the end of the weekend, the applicant who exhibits the most of what we look for in a student — competitiveness, confidence, and a fighting spirit — will edge out the others. It's these intangibles that can't be easily quantified on paper that we want to see at work in the cage."

Courtesy

Admissions officials hope the new selection policy, based on hate, violence and competition, will create a new type of student body at Middlebury College.

According to Clagett, the fight will take place in a controlled environment. A medical trainer will be on hand at each cage, and no fight will be allowed to continue once one applicant surrenders or is knocked out. Despite these safety measures, the use of what Clagett called "props" will nonetheless be supported. Various objects, including baseball bats, folding chairs, ceramic plates and Nerf guns will be made available to the cage fighters. Applicants will have the option not to compete, but Clagett underlined the seriousness of the College's commitment to the new admissions tool.

"You won't have to fight if you don't want to," said Clagett, "but that also means giving up your place to somebody else."

College courting Oprah for commencement

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

achievements inspire the *Campus* editorial board.

On a whim, the College also paid for Associate Dean of the College Marichal Gentry to travel to "The Promised Land," the 42-acre Montecito, California estate that is home to celebrity talk show host Oprah Winfrey.

Throughout his career at Middlebury, Gentry has lobbied for Winfrey to be the College's commencement speaker, sending highlight reels from her show and homemade, frosted "O" sugar cookies to bribe the Honorary Degree Committee.

After learning of Clinton's cancellation, Gentry promised Liebowitz he could recruit Winfrey with little more than a rose and a smile.

"We had just gotten off the phone with President Clinton and Marichal walked in the door with a plane ticket to Santa Barbara," said Liebowitz. "I was flustered and maybe not thinking clearly, but I authorized Marichal to pursue this ambition of his."

Realizing the high-stakes they were playing, College administrators ordered Marichal a tailored Armani suit and luxury rental car to seal the deal.

"The plan was that she would be immediately enchanted with my offer and we would drive cross-country back to Middlebury arriving just in time for the commencement ceremony," said Gentry in a phone interview from a guest house at The Promised Land.

Courtesy

But Gentry arrived at Winfrey's estate just before midnight, only hours after the billionaire had dumped her long-time partner Stedman Graham. Distraught and alone, Winfrey invited the charming Middlebury College official onto her veranda to meet her two cocker spaniels, Sophie and Soloman.

"I get the feeling I might be here a while," said a nonchalant Gentry. "Tell Ron we might not make it back in time for graduation."

Jansen denies responsibility

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dents can't read what they say. We hope that will break their spirit."

The College has developed new regulations that govern carvings in public places. In previous discussions over possible means to combat the problem, the College had debated covering all desks and tables with seranwrap or banning the use of pens and pencils during classes. However, the new regulations will include strict punishments for any student caught defacing college property.

"We have passed a new policy with heavy penalties to any student caught carving on desks," said Brady. "Most of the time, students found carving messages into desks face expulsion from the college. However, in less extreme cases, students will merely face punishment in 'the box.' We don't want to let out too many details about 'the box' but we used our imagination when we designed it."

public safety log

March 19 - April 4, 2007

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
3/19/2007	Unknown	False Advertising	Double-ply toilet paper	Prescott House	Referred to Charmin Bear
3/21/2007	2:08 p.m.	Mini-Vehicle Theft	Mail Gator Hijacking	Outside McCullough	Referred to Bounty Hunter
3/22/2007	3:10 p.m.	Ignorance	Fork in the Spoon Tray	Ross Dish Return	Suspect Sent to Stockades
3/23/2007	12:55 a.m.	Dress Code Violation	Wearing Northface in Abercrombie Weather	Outside Library	Referred to Campus Fashionista
3/24/2007	Early morning	Animal Escape	Monkey from Psych Lab	Bicentennial Hall	Working on Catching Monkey
3/26/2007	12:00 a.m.	Offensive Ringtone	Super Mario Soundtrack	Munroe Lecture Hall	Phone Impounded
3/27/2007	11:40 p.m.	Shipwreck	Capsized in Natatorium	Natatorium	Coast Guard Summoned
3/28/2007	All day long	Vandalism	Nick Janson Facts	Gifford Desks	Janson Fined (see frontpage)
3/30/2007	2:18 a.m.	Bread Theft	Baguettes	French School Abroad	Referred to Nationale Police
4/4/2007	12:35 p.m.	Loss of Dignity	The Midd Campus	Ross/Proctor/Atwater	Public Humiliation

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 11 fun citations between March 12 and March 18.

college shorts

By Kevin G. Ahmed, Chuck Chant and Ryan Rung

Williams student: 'I've made a huge mistake.'

A Williams College student has discovered that he should have enrolled at Middlebury College instead of at the Williamstown, Massachussets school because he believes "Williams sucks."

Williams first-year Steve Davis, who was accepted to both Williams and Middlebury last year as a high school senior, acknowledged that he "made a huge mistake" in matriculating at Williams.

"I don't like it here," said Townsend. "They spit in our food and our dorm rooms look like prison cells, right down to the cell doors. Plus, they hit us with a cane for every wrong answer we get on tests."

Despite Townsend's regret, he has yet to receive sympathy from his parents.

"I hate to say I told him so, but I told him so," said Debbie Davis, Steve's mother, in an interview with the *Associated Press*. "There's a reason why there are shirts that read 'Williams Sucks.' And Middlebury always beats Williams in hockey, which should be the only measuring stick for selecting colleges."

McDonald's to open Princeton eating club

An eleventh eating club will be opened at Princeton next year, officials announced at a press conference Monday. According to Vice President of Public Affairs Robert K. Durkee, the new eating club will resemble the stately atmosphere of the other ten clubs on Prospect Avenue, with one exception.

"It's gonna have like a gigantic 'M' on it, on account that it's gonna be run by McDonalds," said Durkee.

He said that McDonalds will offer the same food at the eating club that they offer at retail locations nationwide.

"The idea was to give students an alternative to the really good food that they currently serve at the eating clubs," said Durkee. "Plus Micky Dee's gave us a shit load of money for the rights to operate this thing."

Eating clubs, which line Prospect Avenue on the Princeton campus, have been a standard part of student life at Princeton for more than a century. The majority of upperclassmen take their meals in one of the ten clubs, which are private organizations resembling both dining halls and social houses.

"I think the eating clubs are a great place to relax and unwind after a long day of feeling stupid in all of your classes," said junior Rex Ireland. "And I'm sure that McDonald's will serve this purpose well."

Amherst History Dept. bans entire Internet

Administrators at Amherst College have imposed a moratorium on all computer use after one student was allegedly caught using the Internet last week. The new restrictions come on the heels of a recent change in policy initiated by Amherst's Department of History.

"Whereas the Internet is extraordinarily convenient and, for some general purposes, extremely useful, it nonetheless suffers inevitably from inaccuracies deriving in large measure from its unique manner of compilation," read the new policy, which was reprinted in The Amherst Student.

The student who violated Amherst College policy, sophomore Ima Tool, has yet to be punished for her actions, but said she deeply regrets the error of her ways and will seek rehabilitation with the help of the Amherst College Counseling Center.

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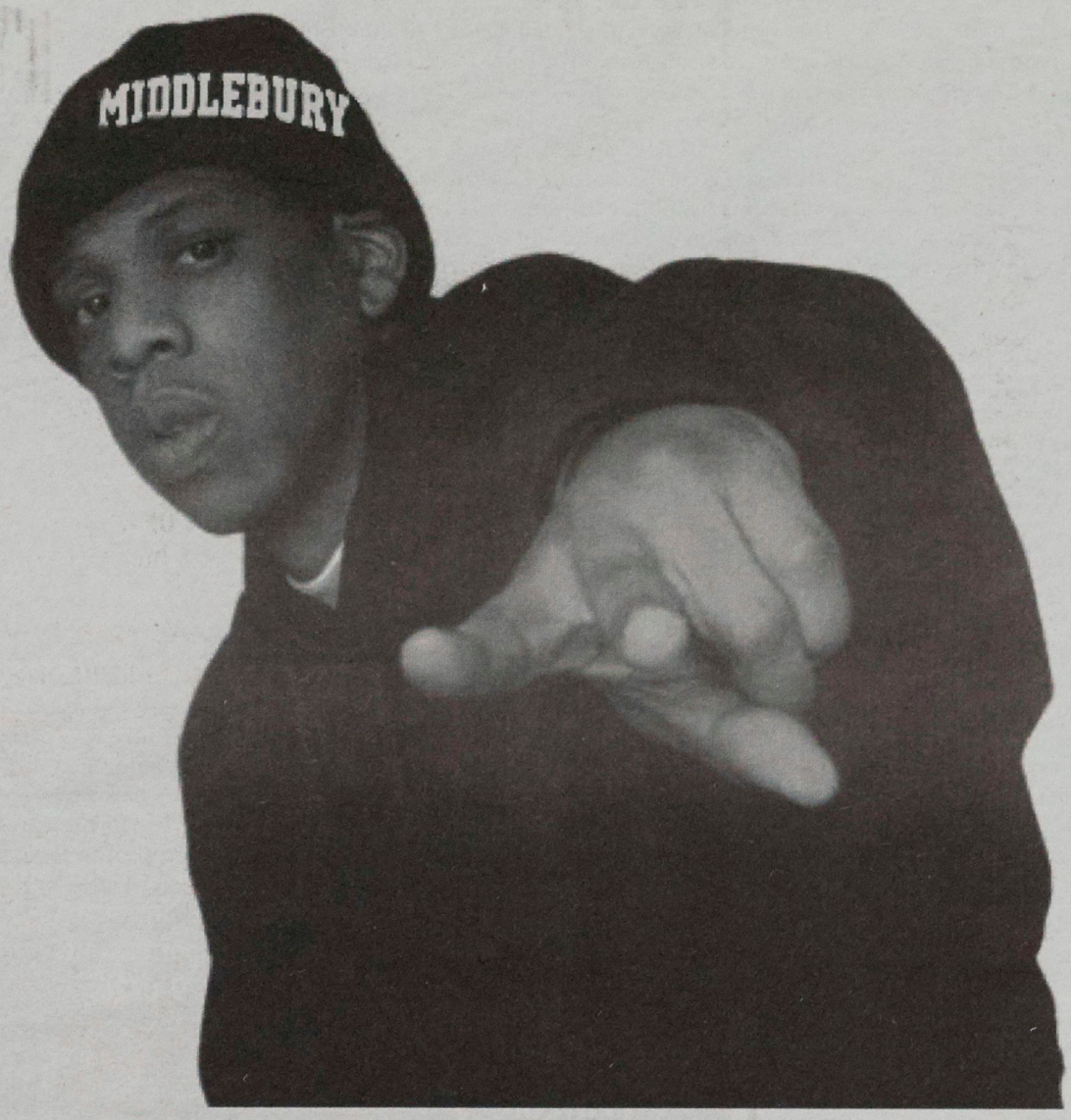
THERE IS STILL TIME TO APPLY FOR SUMMER 2007 CLASSES



BIG PIMPIN' BY THE LIBRARY

BY HAMARA TILMES

Jay-Z, arguably one of the top hip hop artists in America, has not only topped the charts of the music industry, but he has also gone on to own his own record label, clothing line, and more recently, his own chain of upscale restaurants and lounges. Jay-Z, along with co-owners Desiree Gonzales and Juan Perez have opened a series of restaurants in New York and New Jersey and they have plans to build additional venues in Los Angles, Las Vegas, Singapore, and as of this week, Middlebury, Vermont.

Jay-Z, or Shawn Carter, announced Monday that he will be opening a restaurant and lounge in downtown Middlebury. His first restaurant opened on 25th Street in New York City on June 18, 2003 and was dubbed the 40/40 Club. The name is from major league baseball terminology for the rare occurrence of hitting 40 home runs and stealing 40 bases in one season.

""When we were thinking of a name, we wanted something exclusive -- the 40/40 Club in baseball is as exclusive as it gets," Jay-Z explained to *The Campus*.

The Middlebury site, like the restaurants already located in New York City and Atlantic City, will be an All-American sports bar and lounge. Like the New York location, the restaurant will feature a 24' x 8' slate bar and a 16-foot-wide staircase with seating built on to each step. It will also feature 15 LCD TVs, eight plasma screen TVs — three of which will have 60" screens and four double-sided big-screen TVs. Along with the main restaurant and lounge areas, there will also be two VIP rooms with a 70-person capacity, ideal for Middlebury citizens who wish to hold private parties.

"We tried to create a place that would be favorable to both men and women, and we think we have found it with the combination of sports and an upscale hip lounge", said owner Desiree Perez.

The newest off-shoot of the 40/40 Club will be located in what is now the Russ Sholes Senior Center in downtown Middlebury, next to Ilsley Public Library right off Main Street. Jay-Z chose to open his newest restaurant in Vermont for various reasons. On June 18, 2004 Jay-Z performed at Madison Square Garden with Phish, the band that originated in Burlington, Vermont.

"When I played with Phish a couple of years ago, I really got to know them," recollected the platinum hip hop artist. "They seemed like cool guys, so when they said they were from Vermont, I made a mental note to go there someday."

Jay-Z visited Vermont this past fall with celebrity girlfriend Beyonce Knowles, and after their week-long stay in the Green Mountains and the Champlain Valley, they reportedly "fell in love with the rural Vermont setting."

"The Vermont landscape was just breathtaking," Knowles told *People Magazine* after the vacation. "The herds of cattle grazing in the fields reminded me of Texas, so I immediately felt at home. Also, Vermont would be a great place to raise a family." Although both Knowles and Jay-Z refused to confirm, it is rumored that they will settle in Vermont after they both retire from the music industry. Many believe that the opening of the new restaurant in Middlebury is the first step. However, many other points were taken into consideration for the selection of the restaurant's location.

"The downtown area of Middlebury is where it's at," said Ron Berkowitz, director of Communications for the 40/40 Club. "Not only does everyone from the town hang out there, but students from the college are always coming in. Also, Middlebury is the shire town of Addison County and in a prime location in Vermont. Because it sits between Vermont's two largest metropolises, Burlington and Rutland, the restaurant would receive patrons from both cities."

Jay-Z signed contracts with the Town of Middlebury on Monday purchasing the Middlebury Municipal Building, where the Russ Sholes Senior Center is currently located. While Jay-Z and members of the town select board seem happy with the decision, the citizens of Middlebury are not so sure that they want the new club.

"It is simply an outrage," said Emily Joselson, a member of the board for the new teen center that was to be located in the basement of the Municipal Building. "The town allocated that space to the teen center and instead they sold it to a rapper and his cronies. Where will the teens and elderly citizens of Middlebury go now? Certainly not to a nightclub that will no doubt bring revelry and vice into our tiny New England Community."

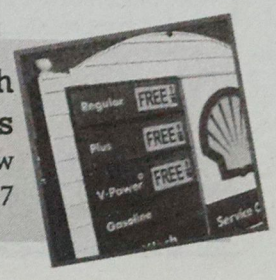
Despite uproar from the community, the town is satisfied with their decision to sell the building to the R&B superstar.

"This new club will certainly put Middlebury on the map," said Town Manager William Finger. "Our tourism will go way, way up, and Middlebury could do with a little nightlife."

Kangaroo escapes from Zoo
Yes, Middlebury has a zoo, page 17

Taste the local flavor
Pudgy Paco has some stick-to-your-ribs good eats and profound life advice, too, page 6

Gas station to launch free fuel Fridays
Weekly event to be the new American Thansgiving, page 17



Pudgy Paco brings diversity to local cuisine

By Jelly Kanis
Local News Editor

Pudgy Paco's Greasy Spoon is a veritable oasis for those who have grown weary of organic produce, eco-friendly practices and arteries through which blood flows unobstructed.

"Our menu is a cross between the type of cuisine you might find in a middle school cafeteria, a dumpster and a prison," said owner Paco Rydzik as he smoked a cigar and gnawed on a chicken leg at the South Main Street restaurant. "Maybe not quite as classy," he added with a hearty belch and a sly smirk.

"We get the beef that was rejected by McDonalds. They have obscenely high standards," Rydzik explained. "We figure, if it resembles meat, you're gonna be alright. And if you're not, then it was your time to go, and you might as well accept it. The way I see it, a good case of E. coli builds character. There are lots of sissies in this town. They need a little character building. That's what I'm all about. The character building."

When asked whether the restaurant boasted any amenities such as Wi-Fi, take-out or sanitary kitchen conditions, Rydzik dissolved in laughter. After composing himself four minutes later, he asked if that was a joke.

"Over my cold, dead body," he said.

Rydzik's good humor subsided when the conversation turned to his culinary experience and qualifications.

"Stop asking so many damn personal questions! Shut up! Just, shut up! Who have you been talking to?"

Pudgy Paco calls hormones and pesticides "tasty little buggers" and says no meal is complete without them. "I like my cows pumped with so many hormones they sprout three heads," he said, smiling fondly. "And, as far as I'm aware, a few pesticides ain't never harmed nobody."

The owner believes the trend toward healthy eating poses grave consequences. "For one, I see increased life expectancy as a real concern," he said. "There are only so many nursing homes you can build."

Thinning waist lines present a similar worry.

"Obesity is good for the ladies," Rydzik said. He winked. "I'm not gonna lie. I like a little junk in the trunk."

Rydzik attributes his success in the restaurant business to his ability to prioritize.

"Customer service isn't something we waste a lot of time fretting over," he explained. "What is it they say? 'The customer is always right'? I mean, that sounds real nice and all, but let's be real. I'd say that seventy five — maybe eighty five — percent of the time, the customer is a total idiot. We appreciate their kind hearts and smiling faces, though. And their money. Okay, mostly their money."

Money, according to Rydzik, is what makes the Greasy Spoon a meaningful venture. "I'm not in this to better the community. That's what the United Way is for, you know? I'm in this to score the big bucks. I've got a few vices that don't come cheap."

Pudgy Paco's grand opening was marked by great fanfare. A prospective College student found a convulsing rat, writhing on the brink of death, at the center of her Granny's Ashes Hot Pocket. "Man, that was incredible," Rydzik said. "You should have seen her face. She was so excited that she turned this strange shade of green, began vomiting, and bolted out the door, screaming, 'I'm going to Vassar!' Things like that — they lend a restaurant character."

Rydzik held up his right hand to reveal four fingers and a bloody, oozing stub. "Don't know where the fifth one went, but I reckon we'll be sending somebody to Dartmouth or Mount Holyoke by closing time."

Ultimately, Rydzik views himself as a revolutionary. "This preoccupation with granola and fancy pants paninis and not making Mother Nature cry is a load of bull," he said. "The fine residents of Middlebury have spent far too long repressing their lust for cat liver, skunk's hide, and pure lard. Pudgy Paco will fix 'em. Just you wait."

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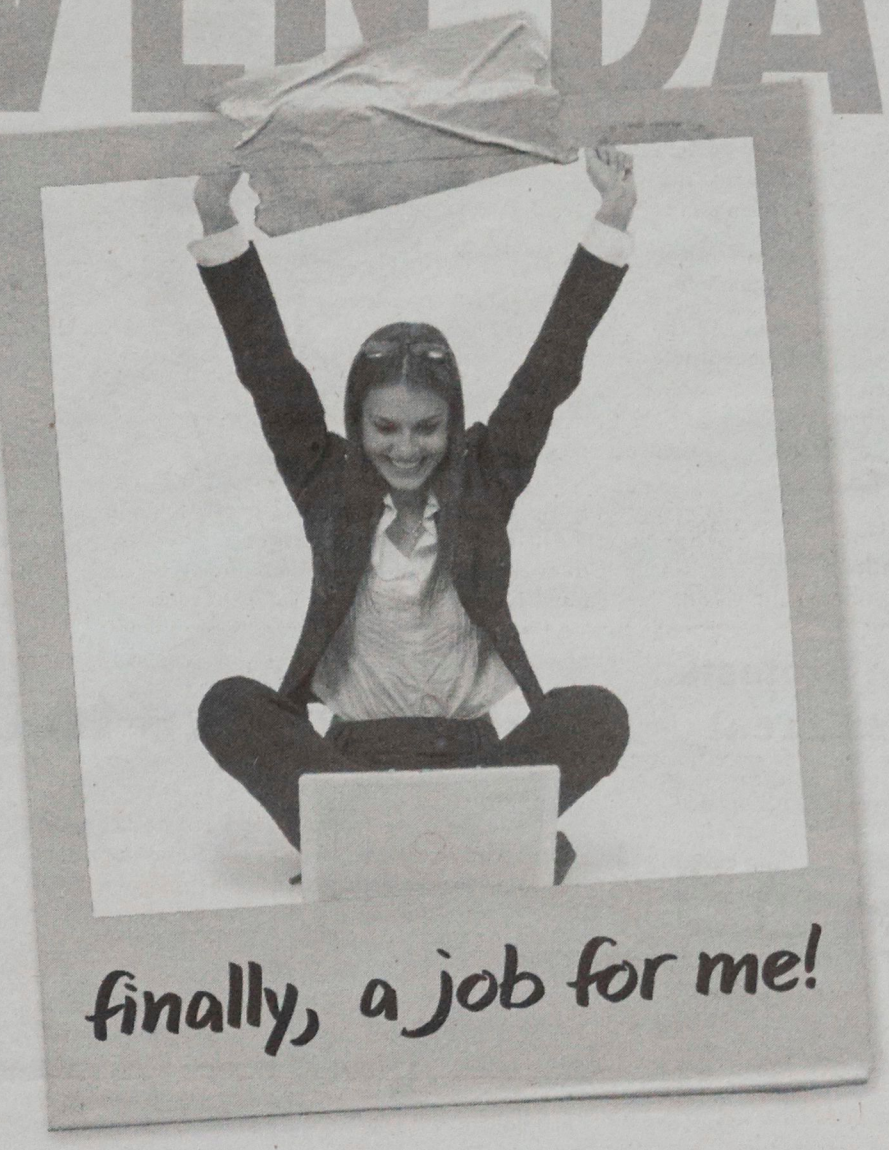

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The staff editorials represent the official anti-environment opinions of The Middlebury Campus as dreamed by the Editorial Board and dictated by the Opinions Editors.

The truth behind the protests: global warming isn't real

Middlebury College is hot on global warming. Millions of dollars of the Middlebury College budget are spent — read: wasted — each year on initiatives to help curb the slow warming of our globe. The lacrosse team buys Carbon offsets, the ski team is carbon neutral and nearly 10% of each incoming class until 2050 will be peopled by presumptuous hippies who think they can make a difference. Sadly, Middlebury's resources are being misdirected because of one simple fact, global warming is a lie.

Anyone with eyes and ears (or just a sense of touch) knows that the globe isn't getting warmer. Those "global warming" activists are short-sighted. They worry so much. They have weekly meetings in La Force. They protest, but they get nowhere. These activists shut up when November brings cold winters and an icy climate that only lets up in April. Then, out of hibernation come the activists, in May and June, kicking and yelling about a warmer earth. Where were you all winter?

We worry that Middlebury is going in a drastically wrong direction by advocating a curb in power use and institutionally encouraging conservation of energy. Conserving energy means laying around, listening to the Grateful Dead and probably wearing overalls—a lot of talk but no action. This doesn't sound too effective to us at the Editorial Board.

The real issue is the environment. Studies show that global warming does not exist. But if that's not enough proof, we encourage the students and administration to take a walk outside. There are mounds of snow on the ground we're in the month of April. Sorry, but the world does not seem to be getting warmer.

Furthermore, if the world were to get warmer, we would greet those ultraviolet rays with open arms. We remember with pain the frozen Russian winters depicted in David Lean's "Doctor Zhivago" or the 34,000 dead in the cold in America's forgotten war, Korea. For us frail, asthmatic editors, walking to McCardell Bicentennial Hall in the blistering cold is just as painful as the above examples.

Of course, we would not expect all of you to realize that global warming is a lie. That's why we are your newspaper editors: we find the truths, and sometimes make them even better.

The moral of the story is that if we want a warmer globe we are going to have to go out and find one for ourselves. So Middlebury, do you remember that piece of land out in Monterey, California that President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz acquired for us not so long ago? Let's think big and dream high.

Today we call on the College community to pack its bags, use your emergency departure plans if you need them, and let's all line-up on the side of Route 30 with our thumbs held high and a smile on our face: We're goin' to sunny Californ-i-a.

contact the campus

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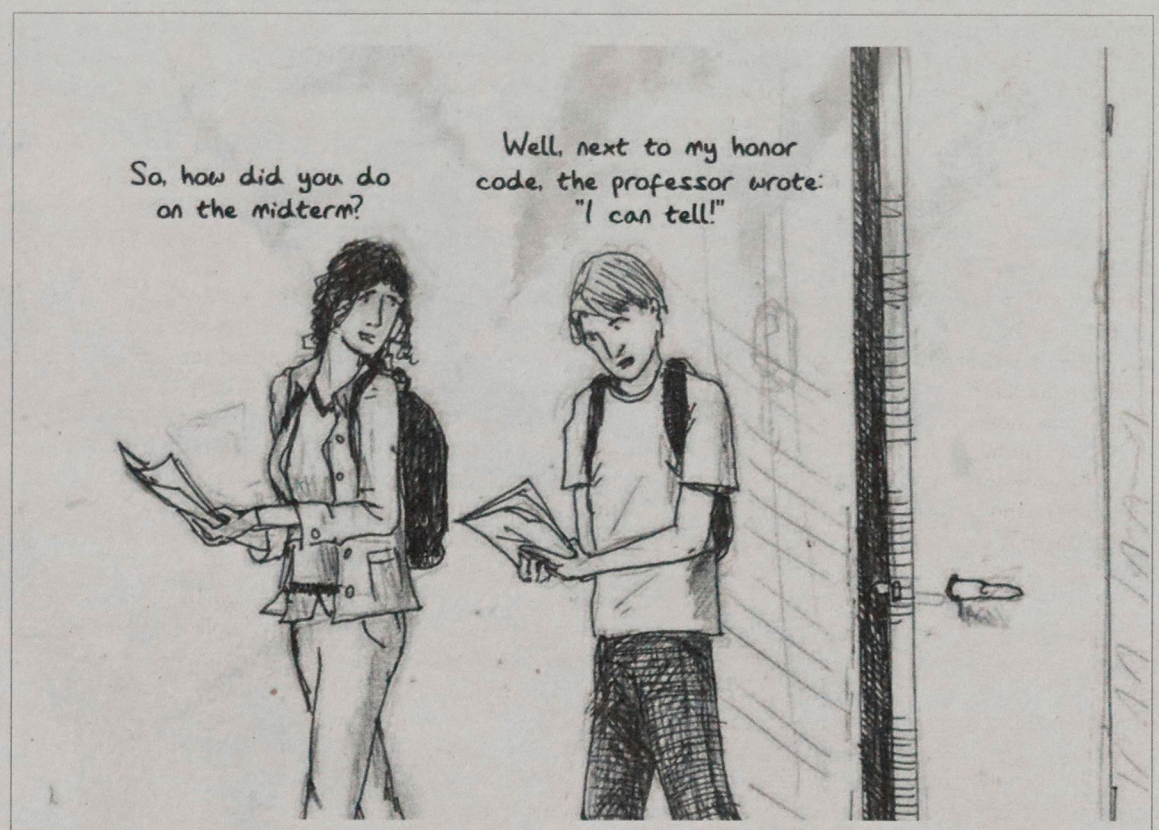

Taylor Long and Sam Dakota Miller

letters to the editor

To the Editor:

As a former Middlebury College ice hockey player (back when we didn't have this god forsaken panther mascot that was dreamed up in the mid-nineties) I take an interest in my old team and the other athletic endeavors of my alma mater. So, like many other alums I get *The Campus* delivered each week.

Last Monday as I sat at Breakfast, my wife began reading the sports section aloud (as she always does — I have such shaky eyesight these days). Upon reading the first title, "Moffat controls canine collars and wins 600 dollars" my wife began to swoon. I asked if she was alright, but she continued reading, unable to stop, "Scott stops seniors' spectacular streak." She started complaining of dizziness, and nausea she screamed: "Spring squads swing South to start season". "Men wage water war on Williams". "Overtime thriller was a killer for the Panthers". "Pecsock's Panthers penetrate into playoffs." AHHHHHH.

My wife entered into hypovolemic shock, she passed out seconds later. She was comatose for 3 days, and now only speaks in alliteration and rhyme. Thanks a lot, *Campus*.

Sincerely,
Richie Wilson '57
Reno, NV.

To the Editor:

The recent letters and op-eds on Wikipedia, as well as the policies implemented by the college, are somewhat disturbing to me. Not only do I think Wikipedia should be accepted as a legitimate source for all research papers, but it should be a requirement for every assignment.

If your paper or Powerpoint does not have some sort of Wikipedia reference, you either deserve an F for not citing the most beneficial and helpful source on Earth, or you should be kicked out of school for plagiarism. I say this because if your paper is at all worth reading, then there is no way you didn't use Wikipedia.

I think I would actually take this whole issue a step further and say that Wikipedia should be the only reference allowed in papers and projects. If you can't find something on Wikipedia, then as far as I'm concerned, it doesn't exist.

Take, for example, the one guy who was supposedly listed as dead on Wikipedia. He was generally offended by this apparent error in the facts. Well, I'm sorry buddy, but if you're listed as dead on Wikipedia, it's over. You either need to make drastic life-style changes to affirm to the public that you are in fact living or you should just give up.

Books? Articles? Legitimate sources? No one uses that stuff anymore. The only thing I believe in is popular consensus.

Sincerely,
Samuel Jackson '09
Berlin, NY.

To the Editor:

From the day my son Fenny was born I knew he'd be a Wonnacott Man. His sharp, aristocratic features, and the athleticism and kind charm that characterized his youthful days only reinforced what I already knew, that Fenny was a true squirrel.

We had great pride in our boy. Yet this Spring I received a letter telling me that my son would be in Brainerd. Since this latest development, I have no son.

W. Wright Fenwick III '59
Just outside of Boston, Mass.

campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Monday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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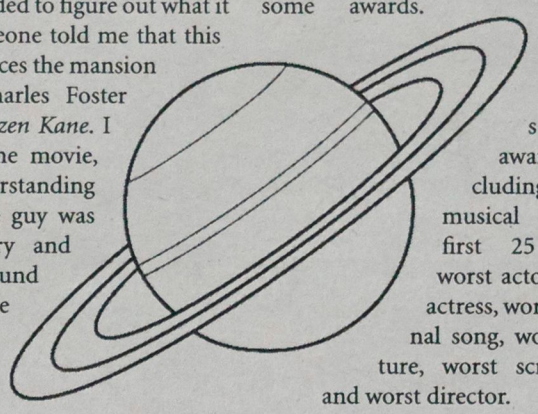
notes from the desk: **Arnold Stone**

Xanadu will be amiguously fun

Middlebury is finally getting its act together with a new student-run, on-campus nightclub. A new place to party is exactly what the student body needs to up its morale and allow students to escape some of that infamous workload.

The name Xanadu intrigued me, so I decided to figure out what it means. Someone told me that this word references the mansion built by Charles Foster Kane in *Citizen Kane*. I never saw the movie, but my understanding was that the guy was power-hungry and eventually found himself alone hours before his death. That does not sound like a theme I would like to dance to.



I "Googled" Xanadu to see if this name was really a reference to something else. The first hit was an Olivia Newton John movie. The second hit, an article discussing one of Saturn's moons, Titan. Xanadu is obviously pretty ambiguous.

Normally, this wouldn't bother me. Maybe the ambiguity will be a part of its charm. You can pick a theme and run with it. Still I couldn't help but notice that "Xanadu," the movie, is sometimes considered the "Moulin Rouge" of the 1980's, with one exception. It was bad. That's funny to me since I thought "Moulin Rouge" itself was terrible. I don't even want to imagine how bad this movie was.

Still, I reserved judgment and decided to check out "Xanadu" on the International Movie Database. To my surprise, the flick actually won some awards. It was nominated for seven awards, including worst musical of our first 25 years, worst actor, worst actress, worst original song, worst picture, worst screenplay and worst director.

I don't know about the rest of the campus, but I'm concerned. The first reference leans towards a 1940's equivalent to Michael Jackson's rape-mansion and the second is a fantasy, musical romance from the 1980's. This is not how I want to picture the new nightclub. Fantasy, musical, and romance coupled together probably make up the worst genre imaginable. Okay, I'll be fair. If the fantasy was similar to "Never-ending Story" or "Labyrinth," then we've got ourselves a classic. Those movies were awesome.

I've heard rumors that Olivia is coming to Middlebury for the grand opening. Nerds from all over Vermont are coming to see her cut the red tape Friday night. She's even supposed to dress up in her Xanadu costume (big-hair and all) and sing songs from the musical including "Magic," "Suspended in time" and "Dancin'." Why couldn't they have named the club Labyrinth? Then we could have had Rod Stewart tear down the house on opening night.

Keep in mind that I may have this all wrong. The reference is so ambiguous that, according to Wikipedia, it could be referring to the "enigmatic bright feature on the surface of Saturn's moon." I mean, is it really a coincidence that the club's location is situated right next to John McCardell Jr. Bicentennial Hall? I mean, the place has it's own observatory. Astronomy students are probably thrilled. I agree. Why not name the club after this astronomical feature? A bright spot on Saturn's moon sounds like a great place to party. So far, this is the most appealing reference I can hope for, and it's the one I'm going with.

I am thoroughly confused by the name Xanadu, but let's be honest. I am so starved for a social life, that I will be lining up three hours early to get in to this new Citizen Kane/ Olivia Newton John/ bright spot on Saturn's moon.

Arnold Stone is an independent scholar and Campus copy editor who hails from Richmond, Va.

op-ed: **T.J. Davisson**

A whole new world of girls

Ever been at a restaurant with a bunch of guys and girls? You and two of your friends and three females, looks like it could be a good night. You order some random dish and look up from the water you just spilled on your pants to witness the inevitable event in every dinner with girls. Girl Talk. Sally whispers "excuse me", in Meghan's ear and they both get up quickly from the table. Elizabeth, not endowed with the brains of the former two girls but twice as talented, gets up afterwards and sprints to catch up. Girl talk. You look at your two guy friends and wonder, what, on earth, they could possibly do in that bathroom for the next 10-15 minutes.

Well, last week something incredible happened. As exciting dorm room parties have begun to pervade Middlebury's campus, going out usually means going to places like Painter. So, throwing down pretty hard with my buddies and a few girls, I noticed a standard girl talk moment. A trinity of halter-topped first-years made some sort of eye contact and within seconds all three bee-lined to the bathroom.

Oh they didn't know what they were in for. Thanks to Middlebury College's unstinting dedication to awkward and eminently unenjoyable social situations (both in and outside of the dorm), Painter has all co-ed bathrooms, and only two per floor. I chugged my PBR and headed for the bathroom determined to find out what happened behind the closed doors of Girl talk.

Should I knock? Ehh…might ruin the atmosphere. I stretched my arms and legs and prepared to enter. I slammed open the door and I've never been the same since.

I was nearly blinded by the rainbow of bright lights, Sophie Ellis Baxter's "Murder on the Dance floor" was playing at full volume, and what seemed like hundreds of girls were singing "oh no, oh no, oh no, oh no, oh no." I was soon caught up in the ecstasy of thousands of girls dancing, gyrating, booty shaking to that unforgettable chorus line. It was like nothing I'd ever seen.

Everyone was there. Literally every girl on campus must have been in this bathroom. But it wasn't just a bathroom, there were different levels not unlike that five level club in Prague. This wasn't just any Eastern European single-sex American music club, at least not like the one's I've ever been in. There wasn't a single male, not even a bouncer. Jello shots of Bacardi breezers were at all the bars. Beirut games of just girls dancing (vainly attempting to distract their opponents) were ubiquitous. I decided to take advantage of the incredible place and my incredible (and well deserved) luck. I approached a tall blonde I'd never seen before and with my most earnest blue steel eye contact I started dancing with her, closer and closer. Our torsos were on the verge of the tangential point, when we finally touched and BAM! Ouch! I fell hard from the sky. I was wet. It was raining and muddy. I was dropped from the sky into a ditch outside of KDR, during rush. Hell on earth.

I made my way back through the slush to Painter. My friends asked where I'd gotten so wet in only two minutes. They would never understand. But at least I now know the truth behind girl talk: bathrooms are transformed into a LNDP so incredible, so mesmerizing and enthralling that everything changes.

T.J. Davisson is a Political Scientist major from Kansas City, Mo. You can find him partying in Painter.

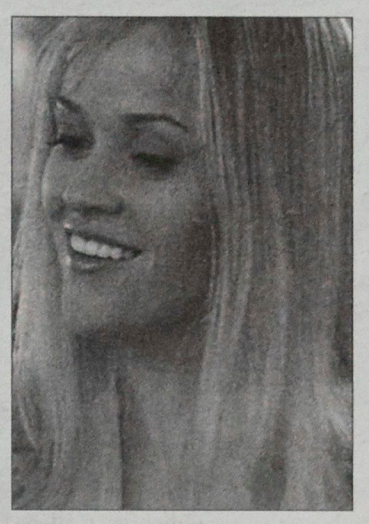
heardoncampus

"Middlebury is such a fun school with a thriving social life."

— Naïve freshman

the facts: **Elle Woods**

I LOVE <3 my commons :-)



Since I'm a columnist I get to tell you how I really feel!

My idol is Mr. Thomas Friedman (he's a columnist just like me!!!), you might have heard of him from his famous book "The World is Flat" Duh! Oh, PS My colloquial style is just part of my columnist duties, so don't mind me if I'm a little casual! LOLZ! Anyway, my column today is all about the commons, My commons.

I'm in Cook and it is by far the best commons on campus. Oh my god, I have so much commons pride. Our mascot is a flying pig! Oh my god, I'd only be in another commons when pigs fly, LOL!! But seriously, our motto is also really sweet — Pleasure and intelligence. I think that's a great motto because Cook is really intelligent and full of pleasure (Don't forget that pleasure has the word "leisure" in it! Well, almost!!)

Did I mention that Cook is the best commons? We start out in Battell, which is such a cool dorm! My roommate and I had nothing in common, which made living together sooo difficult! But since we were forced to spend time together with all of the Cook sponsored events and we ate only in our decentralized dining hall and because our housing options were limited for the next year, we've ended up living next door to each other for three years! Wow, that's a long time to be with someone you hate!

Pleasure and intelligence. I think that's a great motto because Cook is really intelligent and full of pleasure.

But back to Cook Commons. No one really knows about the Cook living situation. From Battell, we move to Pearsons and then we try to finagle our way into an Atwater suite for senior year, usually by means of major social insincerity or buying friends! Haha. But really, hehe. Cook may not be as unified as some of the other commons, but since when was the commons system about unification? The commons system is about separating the campus, making it divisive, and creating competition! My best friend from high school goes to Middlebury, but she eats in Atwater and lives in Coffin. Yep, you guessed it, she lives in Atwater Commons. I'm definitely not going to be her friend.

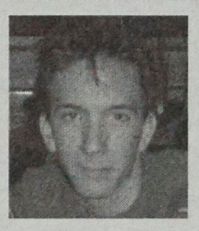
In conclusion, Cook rocks! I know it was mean to use my high position as columnist to lecture everyone on my commons, but hey I'm special, because I'm a columnist, and also because I like Tom Friedman. Also, I've never missed a Free Friday Film. So next time you go to a Free Friday Film, look for the senior sitting front row with a flying pig Nalgene. That'll be me, you guessed it, an awesome member of Cook Commons!

Elle Woods is a special guest columnist while she is teaching a J-Term workshop entitled, "Writing for Social Change."

the web poll: What do you think of Midd's recent creation of daily nap-time?

"ZZZZZzzzzzzzzzzzz"

— ERNIE '10

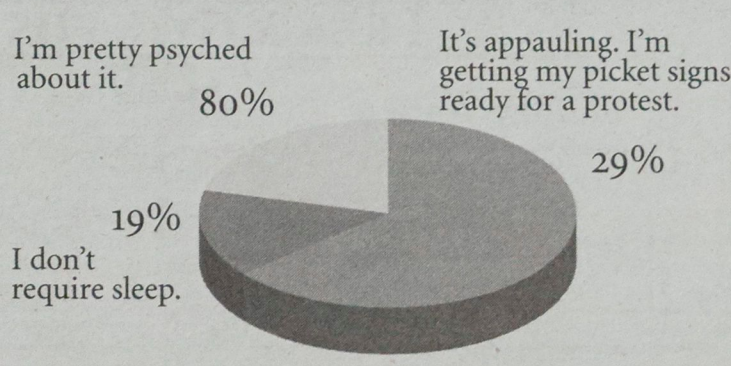


"I already have nap hour. It's called statistics."

— DAN FROST '08.5

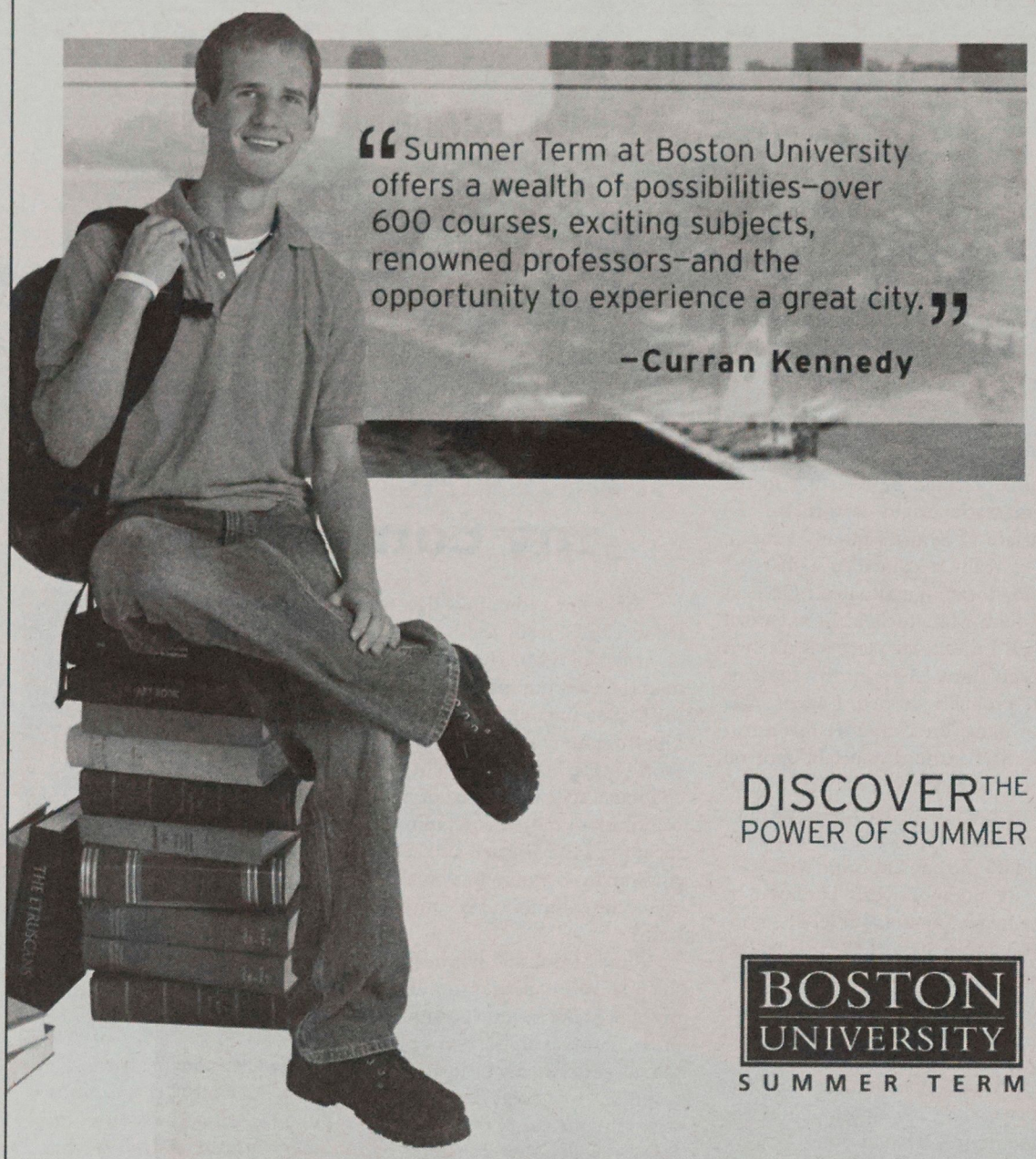
"I'm used to my daily, forced and oftentimes chemically induced.....KEVIN!"

— BRITNEY SPEARS '09



Results taken from poll at www.middleburycampus.com

Next week's web poll: Are *the Campus* opinions polls really statistically accurate, or just made up percentages?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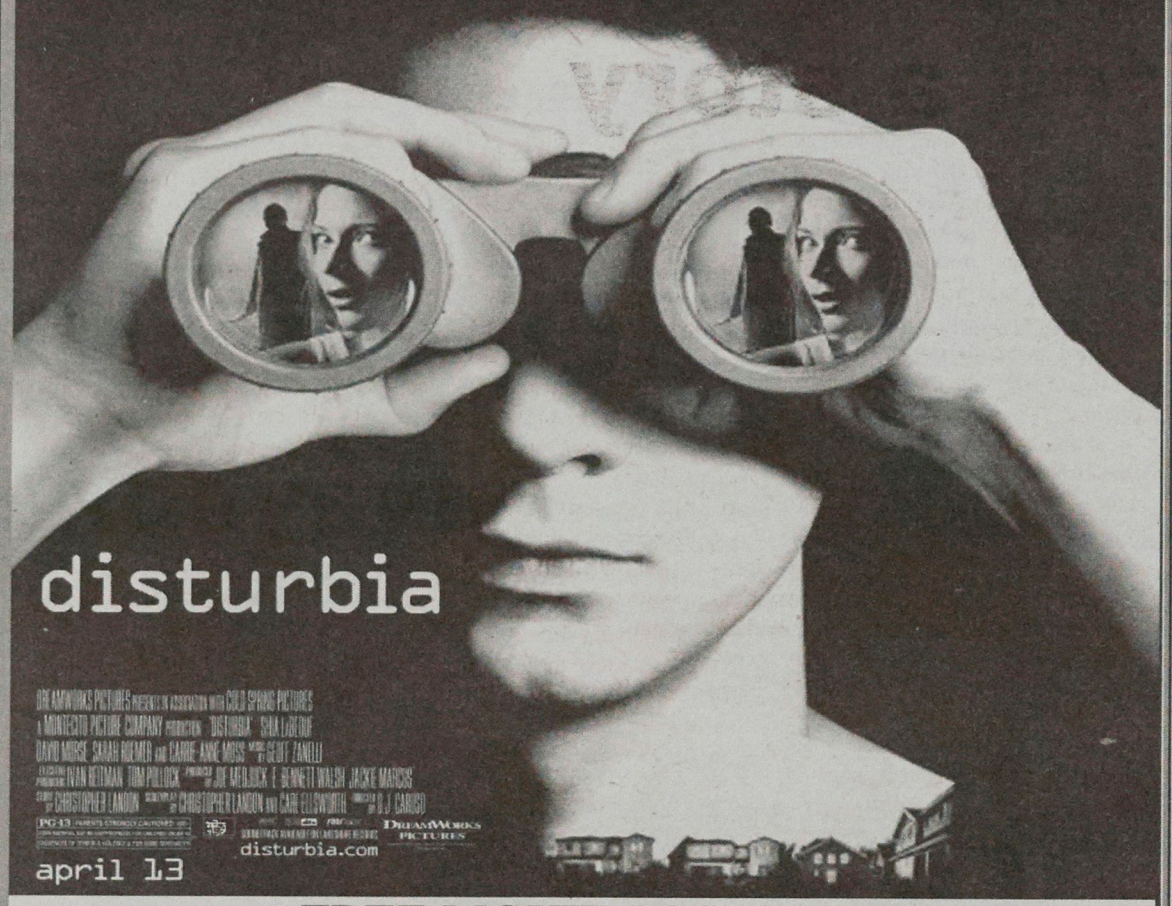

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Library and Information Services is planning to hire three graduate interns next fall. These positions are for ten months and would provide recent graduates of Middlebury College with a variety of project experiences within LIS departments. Please make an appointment with Barbara Doyle-Wilch, Dean of Library and Information Services (802-443-5490) if you are interested or send your resume to bdoylewi@middlebury.edu.

Media Services – this intern must have some digital media production experience. This person would provide videography support and would research and recommend options for hosting for streaming video, to help us find innovative service choices.

Systems and Infrastructure - Seeking a strong computer intern to provide creative energy and perspective, as well as some additional assistance in the network and security realms.

Research and Instruction – Seeking intern to work in Armstrong Library and provide support with GIS applications to both faculty and students.

Proctor cups change a life and tell a story

by Moe Fergan

The room is full of glasses, old Proctor cups, coffee cups, thousands of pieces of silverware. A computer, once operational, sits on Nate Douglas' '10 desk.

"I always leave the dining hall with an ice cream," says Nate Douglas '10, a first-year who lives on the second floor of Stewart Hall. What began as a technicality of a daily ice cream dessert, has quickly escalated into a full on campus wide controversy.

"At first, I thought, yeah, maybe I'll return them, but I would always forget," says Douglas, who is deciding between an economics and sociology major. For the past seven months Douglas, who hails from Pennsylvania, has accumulated over 45,000 dining hall cups in his Stewart room.

"This used to be a double, before Randy Drottning '10 moved out," says Douglas, whose Alaskan roommate left over winter break.

"The last straw was when that he [expletive deleted] started putting trays in my bed and knives in my pillowcase," recalls Drottning.

"Randy had a girlfriend, I didn't think he would mind," responds Douglas, who now lives alone. Douglas also had a girlfriend, Sarah Silversmith '07.5, but they separated shortly after Thanksgiving.

"I really hope Nate gets some help, like psychological help," says Silversmith.

Although some may see this forgetfulness as innocent, Douglas is now the overseer of the most extensive dining hall cutlery collection in the world.

"It's a huge honor, I mean, I just wanted something cold to eat on the way back to Stewart," says Douglas.

But not everyone is happy, mainly Matthew Biette, Head of Dining Services. "We've spent over $40,000 extra on silverware because of that little brat, a substantial amount of that came out of my own pocket," he says.

Douglas' hyjinks are also making waves with students who are noticing a scaled back offering at the dining hall.

"Yesterday, all three dining halls served American cheese, only three slices," says Berg Dorhoof '08.

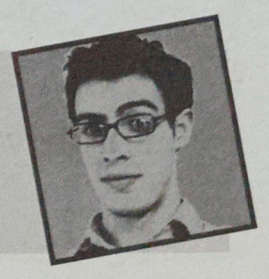
"I don't know what we're going to do when the cheese runs out," says Jim Jarunus, Ross commons chef. "I've got a box of canned peaches, but who knows how long those will last, I had to fire every single worker," he says.

There seems to be no end in sight to this debacle. "I'm not giving anything back," says Douglas, showing off his room in the day light. "I'm really interested in mathematics, especially prisms, you should really see what happens when the sun pours into this room," adding, "it's a fabulous place to enjoy some ice cream.

sex sage
Sage has found something better than sex or chocolate
page 17

Seven-people yellow bikes
We're not joking, or are we?
page 12

newton's laws
Why iPod use could lead to early death, page 17



Strategic plan hits the road

Courtesy

New bike to improve communication

By Yaylie Yaker
Features Editor

Everyone remembers learning to ride a bike. That magical moment in which poise and balance trump one's shaky inhibitions, casting one out of the clumsy world of training wheels and parent's prodding into a state of beautiful, unadulterated, chest-swelling pride. It's a common experience, one shared by myriad different people. Nearly everyone knows how to ride a bike, but has anyone endeavored to ride one with six other people?

Over the past few years, members of the administration and students alike have worked diligently towards fostering a tighter community here at Middlebury. Recent efforts aimed at community building include the expansion of Deliberate Dialogues as well as the current restructuring of the role of the Junior Counselor within the Commons system.

In fact, an entire chapter within the College's Strategic Plan has been dedicated to such efforts. "Enhancing Community" includes recommendations ranging from "#14: Cultivate leadership qualities that address societal needs" to "#28: Increase recognition of employees' accomplishments." Yet no recommendation has been quite as innovative or as revolutionary as the one unveiled this past week — Recommendation #33: "Acquisition of one or more Seven-Person Conference Bicycles."

Why a bicycle? As outlined in the Strategic Plan, the bike would initially be used as a means of meeting new people. On organized rides, the bikers would consist of a student from each commons as well as a member of both the faculty and administration. Later, the administration would hope to expand the number of bicycles, perhaps even christening further acquisitions with an inaugural intercommons race.

"This is a super idea," said Leah Bevis '09, who anticipates "campus-wide excitement."

Hammacher Schlemmers' bicycle has received worldwide acclaim as a team-building vessel, having become the centerpiece of many family reunions, corporate retreats and outdoor education programs. The trike has been touted by its creator Eric Staller, American artist and inventor, as "a symbol for community, a tool for bringing people together." What's more, with its ergonomic design, the bike is both easy and safe to maneuver, its sturdy frame equipped with hydraulic brakes as well as parking and brake lights.

"I can't wait to ride around with my brethren," said an enthusiastic Alexandra Schloss '09.

Kenneth Lazo '09 agreed, his only proviso being, "I hope they paint it yellow."

The Middlebury Campus

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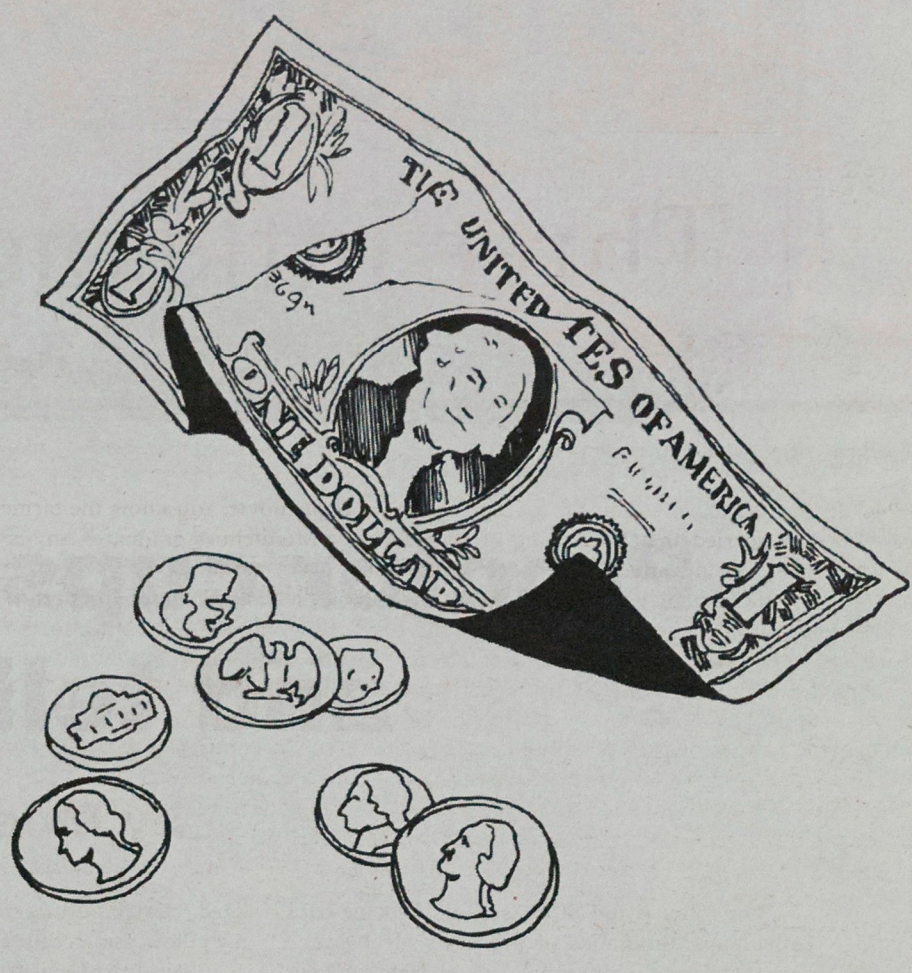
Spring Broke?



Yep, you're a Dollar Menunaire.

i'm lovin' it®

Three little pigs terrorize Zoo

by Drake Guggan

When the theater department decided to put on a performance of *The Three Little Pigs* during the last weekend of spring break, no one worried that the timing of the performance would affect attendance. Enthralled by the idea of using real farm animals along with theater majors, the consensus was that students would flock to see actual pigs hamming it up — fittingly enough — in the Hepburn Zoo.

Unfortunately, last week's performance of *The Three Little Pigs*, adapted for the stage by the cast members themselves, including the pigs, was an exercise in catastrophe for the theater community here at Middlebury. Marred by numerous setbacks and technical difficulties, the ill-fated performance culminated in the actor playing the Wolf blowing down the entire set, as well as a significant portion of Hepburn Hall. Some Hepburn residents welcomed the change and pointed to the accident's proximity to room draw as a convenient excuse to demand better housing for Brainerd Commons upperclassmen.

"I think Hepburn students should stop complaining," said one Hepburn resident. "Any change in Brainerd housing—including structural damage — is an improvement in my book."

Initial plans for using pigs and other livestock in the performance were met with strong support from the human cast members.

Said one excited cast member, "It's like a cross between George Orwell's *Animal Farm* and that *Babe* movie. You know the farmer in *Babe* is a Middlebury graduate? Anyway, it's all very avant-garde."

At first, the directors hoped to perform the play using *only* animals, but efforts to teach the pigs using the Stanislavski System proved futile at best. For quite some time the directors threw around the idea of using cue cards until they were reminded that the animals did not actually know how to read. The department eventually decided to have each of the actors tote an animal around with them on stage as a way to remind the audience that the actors were attempting to transcend and subvert the boundaries of species classifications. The unfortunate loss of limbs suffered by two cast members as they attempted to corner an actual wolf motivated the department to use only humans and pigs. One anonymous theatergoer felt that the presence of animals on stage was entirely gratuitous.

"Did you see the noses of the actors playing the pigs?" she asked. "Actual pigs were completely unnecessary." Some attendees did not even realize the pigs were real.

One first-year at the performance stated, "I just thought they were Williams students."

The cast of *The Three Little Pigs* endured an intense rehearsal schedule that included a weekend of rooting around in mud on a nearby farm.

When asked how he felt about missing a whole weekend at Middlebury to this strange method of preparing for the show, one cast member said, "I don't think I'm missing anything. Don't you read the paper? Club Midd is dead. Besides, it's art. You people don't understand."

In the weeks leading up to last Saturday's performance, cast members could be heard howling and squealing all over campus. A private donation made it possible to purchase a wind machine to place behind the actor portraying the Wolf, as early attempts to perform the play without any special effects revealed the actor's insufficient lung capacity. Given his strength at Saturday's performance, audience members found this information shocking.

The crowd in the Hepburn Zoo last Saturday was a mix of students who remained on campus during the break and farmers from the surrounding area who had taken bets as to how many Middlebury students would faint from the smell. The play's strong opening included singing, dancing, and the clever use of pig droppings as a metaphor for the futility of the Wolf's actions.

The actor who portrayed the Wolf said, "Despite the fact that I blew down the Hepburn Zoo and a large part of the rest of the building, I think this show was a success. I think I speak for the entire cast when I say that the difficult existential struggle as experienced by the Wolf over the course of this play is a story that needed be told."

The lack of support for this opinion was made quite clear by the lack of clapping that accompanied the abrupt end of the play as well as by the riot that broke out when six students demanded refunds. Despite all of these difficulties and setbacks, the cast and crew of *The Three Little Pigs* maintain that the performance was a success.

"What can I say?" said the director. "We brought the house down."

editors' picks

06 Finger Painting:
Johnson Pit Space
8 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Students can spend the day embracing their inner-child and creating finger painting masterpieces. Get inspired and get painting.

08 Yodeling Contest:
Gamut Room
9 p.m.

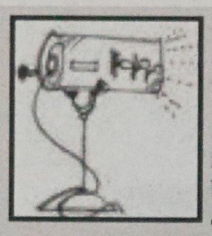
Come on down and support your favorite on campus yodeler. Clad in Heidi-esque costumes and sporting twin braids, Midd's finest yodelers will compete for the title of Best Yodeler 2007.

Mime Time:
Wright Theater
8 p.m.
12

This instructional miming workshop is open to all students on a first come, first serve basis. Famed mime Joe Dole will share his tricks of the trade and offer some feedback to students in an engaging, interactive, educational event.

13 Caddy Shack:
Dana Auditorium
8 p.m.

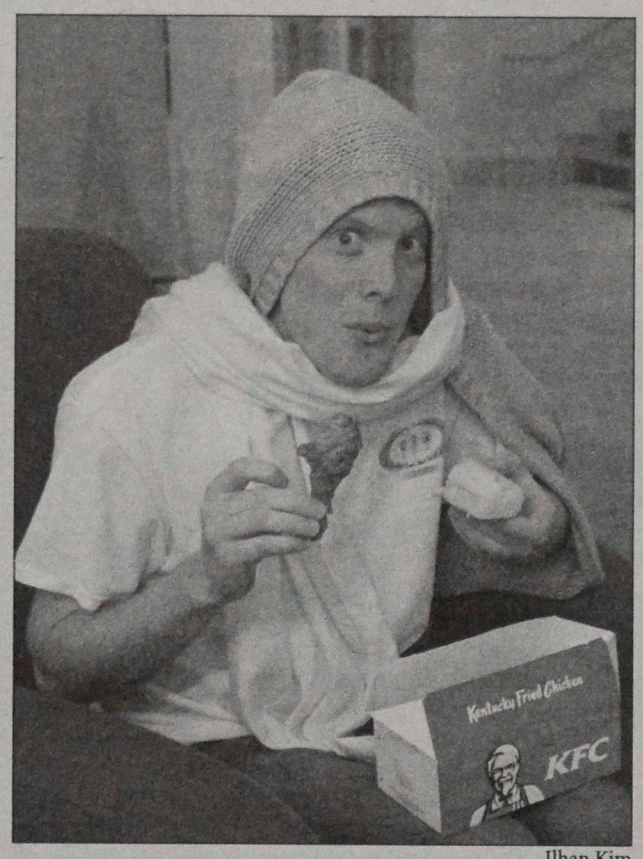
Come laugh your favorite plaid pants off with this oldie but goodie.



Spotlight on... Whistlin' Benny Ben Wiechman

Born and raised in the golden wheat fields of Kansas, senior Ben Wiechman brings pride to his homeland with his own inspiring musical talent — whistling. Ben has whistled for most of his life, developing astounding technique and artistic emotion in the process.

A psychology major, Ben plans to use his whistling to help bring happiness to others and will no doubt take his talent with him when he joins the Peace Corp next year.



Ilhan Kim

Middlebury Campus: When did you first learn how to whistle? Were you taught, or did you pretty much just figure it out on your own?

Ben Wiechman: Well, I reckon it all began when I was pertineer about 4 years old back in the open country of the great state of Kansas. One day, while lying in one of them big wheat fields with good ole Sparky by my side, I noticed how neat the sound of wind is blowin' up against the grass (I reckon I was downright perceptive for just a little fart). Anyhow, I thought it'd be right nifty if I could make that same sound myself. I scratched my head for awhile awonderin' how in the world I could do such a thing, but then one of them whatcha call em', oh right, epiphanies came to me, and by the grace of God I pursed my lips together and blew.

Ole Sparky started waggin' his tail real fast so I knew not only that I was onto something, but that I was headin' places.

MC: What special effects/tricks/sounds can you make with your whistling? e.g. vibrato - I know you can!

I like doing lots of neat stuff with my whistling, includin' little runs, trills, vibrato, and whatnot. Let me let you in on a little trick I do when I want to rev up some mighty fine vibrato. I just imagine that I've been eatin' Bojangles fried chicken and boberry biscuits for pertineer three weeks straight and have metamorphasized into one of them there plump opera singers and am performin' in front of them big city folks in New York or somethin'. That there gits 'er done.

MC: Have you ever performed professionally?

Well, I reckon I've never performed professionally, but I have whistled for talent shows at camp and whatnot. It's a little funny you mention professional whistling though. I was really keyed up to apply for this thing called the Watson Fellowship where you get to do something swell for a year. I reckoned it'd be downright neat to look at the musical art of professional whistlin' and travel the great big world for a year sharin' the love of Kansas and Bojangles with all those folks in other cultures and stuff. Those there committee people weren't quite so gung ho about that there idear of giving me a ton of money to go around the world in search of other kindred whistlin' spirits though. It hurt real bad like the day ole Sparky got hit by the tractor, but my mama took me to Bojangles for a boberry biscuit and some sweet tea, so that helped out a bit.

MC: What are your goals as a whistler? Where do you see yourself going in life?

My big dream as a whistler is to go on that American Idol show and whistle them folks a tune they'll never forget. I reckon that Paula Abdul would downright appreciate my whistlin' skills and help me finagle my way into the hearts of all them big city music folks.

I also thought it'd be right neat to get together a whistlin' accapella group here at school, but I reckon I gotta focus on my reading and arithmetic to keep mama proud.

MC: Why whistling? What does whistling do for YOU?

Well, I reckon my voice sounds a little like ole Sparky after he's been barking at a coon all night, whereas my whistling is a little more good sounding. Not to go too deep or nothin', but whistling is kinda like a nice bottle of pop on a hot sunny, humid day in Kansas. I reckon it's sweet, refreshin', and makes you feel downright happy even if though you're drippin' enough sweat to fill the mighty Mississippi.

MC: Do you have any role models? Any whistlers you aspire to be like?

Well, my all-time favorite television show is the Andy Griffith show, so I reckon I'd have to say that fella who whistles the song in the beginning of that there show.

MC: Do you have any upcoming whistling performances?

I'm ready to give a whistling performance whenever anyone is feelin' a little blue and needs a little bit of comfort. Oh, and like I said, be sure and keep one of your little eyeballs open for me on the next season of American Idol.

— Lara Fameson

Raw netted fish exhibit enchants museum visitors

By Folin Coss
Staff Writer

Earlier this week, the Middlebury College Museum of Art purchased a number of new pieces to increase its current collection, already several-thousand works strong. The new items will take part in a new exhibit called "Searching for the Meaning," an homage to the flexible nature of art and a march toward modernity.

The Museum plans to unveil the works as soon as they arrive on campus. However, some of the pieces have a long estimated delivery time. For example, Munich artist Max Englehertz's Fugue in White is an assortment of off-white sheetrock panels, each about eight feet square and weighing in at two hundred pounds a piece. The panels are arranged like partitions, and allow museums to hang other bits of art off them.

"I meant Fugue to be a sort of functional art," said Englehertz, "but something that reminds the people that what they aren't seeing – the wall behind the art – is as important as the art itself"

With an equally long shipping estimate, the work *Fishnet* by Marseille artist Henri Lagoutte is a suspended, coarse netting that holds in its hammock a mass of fish.

The fish are to be placed in the net alive and fresh and refilled weekly. That is, the fish should still be dripping when on display.

The work is currently on display in the Museum of Modern Art in New York, where visitors are finding the hidden glories of the piece.

"I didn't even see it," said MOMA visitor Adah Rosencrantz "until I felt the drip on my head. The work doesn't allow you to just walk by – you become a part of the experience."

Middlebury College Museum Purchase Manager Steven Greene hopes the College can integrate the special quality of these works into their current collection.

"There's a certain aspect of these works that escapes a lot of college students. I just hope that the exhibit is not taken for granted."

One piece Greene is particularly excited about is the single American work on display by Burlington artist Shelia Candide. The unlikely appearance of the piece is indicative of the title Greene gives of "found art." The museum bought the piece during the artist's studio sale last Sunday on the artist's front lawn.

"So, [Greene] offered me a hundred for it," said Candid about her untitled work. "And I told him one-fifty. His eyes... light up and he grab[s] the set and drives off."

Untitled is a testament to the enduring nature of American identity. It is a tobacco-stained television set that seems to have seen more action at home than it would have abroad during the Vietnam War. The rabbit-ear antennae are snapped off, and the knobs have all fallen off. A mysterious price tag, written on a sticky note and affixed to the side of the set, identifies the item as at "$40 or BO." The difference between the tag price and the artistic value, however, is what makes this piece special.

"People sometimes have certain preconceptions about what modern art is," explained GHG. "I, however, think that people should make preconceptions about what modern art *isn't*. It isn't idle, passive or serious. It isn't what art is; it's what art isn't."

To further explain his point, GHG will place "Searching for the Meaning" behind the current exhibit "Transparency."

"It's like you have to look *through* art to find art: *real* art, which is nothing. And everything."

However, not everyone shares Greene's enthusiasm about the new acquisitions. The works, all from modern artists, represent a shift in the Museum's aesthetic that has not come without controversy.

Some members of the Middlebury art community have prepared organized, experimental protests against what they see as the deteriorating professionalism of the Museum. A group of studio art students has decided with the help of an elite squad of pre-architecture students to cover the Center for the Arts in a giant tarpaulin to symbolize the obfuscation of the integrity of art. However, an early attempt failed when the tarp was placed accidentally over Johnson Memorial Building as a result of poor communication. No students were available for comment.

Despite the skepticism of some members of the arts community, "Searching for the Meaning" plans to have a large opening. New York Times Art Critic Michael Kimmelman will be making the opening remarks, which will be followed by a tour of the new collection conducted by Chief Curator Emmie Donadio.

Finally the Museum will serve snacks and host an open discussion with Donadio and Kimmelman about the nature of the exhibit. But whatever the immediate success of the Museum's new collection, only time can make this kind of avant-garde envelope pushing palatable to the community.

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INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

There were hundreds of kegs and thousands of 30-racks. Stores started to run out of red Solo cups and white ping-pong balls.

And after months of an underground but intense competition, the College Beirut Champion has been named. And that man is James Kerrigan '08.5.

The ever-modest Kerrigan credits his crowning to suitemate and Beirut-partner Harrison Bane '08.5. Of his insurmountable skills, Kerrigan said that, "there is no replacement."

However, after defeating hundreds of two-man teams, the tournament committee demanded a final one-on-one match-up between the two friends to determine not which team, but which man would hold the title of champion. In the ultimate match-up Kerrigan lit up Bane's stellar individual skills.

"It was the toughest game of my life," said Bane. "He's my go-to-guy, and this time I wasn't working with him, but against him."

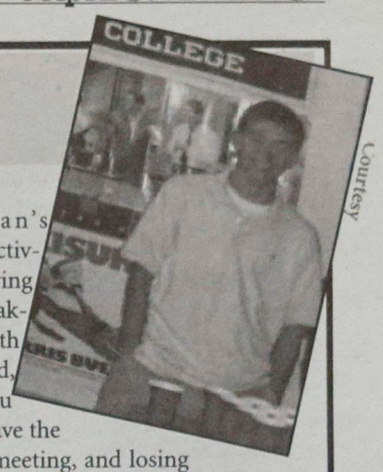
"I guess you could say James made it rain," said spectator and fellow suitemate Ben Gragnolati '08.

Kerrigan and Bane have spent countless weekends (and Wednesday and Thursday nights) together behind one end of the Beirut table, but Kerrigan and Yaya Sideli '08.5 have spent an equivalent amount of time together hanging out, dancing and talking on Skype. But who knows Kerrigan better?

James Kerrigan Czechs in with *The Campus*

	Kerrigan	Sideli	Bane
If you could play a game of Beirut with any professional athlete who would you pick?	Tiger Woods because of his focus. He's clutch.	Any member of the 2004 Boston Red Sox (0).	Tiger Woods. Because he loves him (1).
Busch, Bud or Keystone light?	Busch Light.	Busch Light (1).	Keystone Light (0).
Is it true you and a roommate having matching plaid sheets?	No comment (They are plaid, but don't match).	Yes (0).	No, but they wish they did (1).
How many games in a row was your longest streak?	10.	14 (0).	11(0).
What is your favorite *Wedding Crashers* rule?	"Never leave a fellow crasher behind."	"Never leave a fellow crasher behind" (1).	"Play like a champion" (0).
Is it true first-years come by just to watch you play?	Why wouldn't they?	No, they do it for his good looks (0).	Yes (1).
What song do you play for the rebuttal shot?	Talib Kweli's "Get By."	Talib Kweli's "Get By" (1).	Nas' "Made You Look" (0).
final score		3	3

As all Beirut-playing college students would attest, the table tells all. After an unprecedented tie, it appears Bane and Sideli are equally close with Kerrigan, and there is no champion in this week's Inside the Locker Room.



Courtesy

Kerrigan's favorite activity after playing Beirut is shaking hands with the defeated, though you might not have the pleasure of meeting, and losing to, Kerrigan this spring. After being awarded All-NESCAC honors, Kerrigan took the semester off to begin the Individuals International Tour across Europe.

Has it been difficult for Kerrigan to adapt to International Rules? "Different countries, same success," revealed Kerrigan. "Beirut, not soccer, is the international language of college-aged kids."

If you are a first-year student feeling a little inept at this universal "language," pretend you're not. Take Kerrigan's tip to heart: "Be confident."

The only occasion Kerrigan is not confident staring down a cup is when he is not wearing his L.L. Bean Wicked Good Slippas.

"Why do you think he's wicked good at Beirut?" said Adam Weisman '08.5.

THERE'S NO EYE ON THIS TEAM

Jeff Patterson

During a thumbnail 30-second timeout, Evan Thompson '07 completely lost vision in his right eye. Thirty seconds later, he scored the game-winning basket to beat Williams College 34-32. It was the first time in a long time that the Panthers topped the Ephs on the hardwood.

Drinking light beer has heavy consequences

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

will have to figure out how to replace their top-three goal scorers from this year.

"We hope that someone will rise to the top and put a couple of pucks in the net," said Dawson.

In his defense, perhaps Glimckie thought the hops would give him that extra hop in his step. Or maybe he thought the light beer would help him light the lamp, while at the same time, light a fire under the team and make him light on his feet, so he and his teammates could make light work of the ponderous, home-pond Polar Bears.

Whatever his reason, next year will now be a tougher season.

"I'm definitely going to miss him," said Raeder, who undoubtedly benefited from Glimckie's goal-scoring ability. The goalie won 87.5 percent of the games he played in which Glimckie scored a goal.

"He's a great hockey player and he brought a lot of emotion to the team," said Raeder. "He'll definitely be missed as a friend and a hockey player."

Glimckie, who has led the team in scoring goals each of his first three seasons as a member of the team, and who ended this season four goals away from passing Marc Alcindor's '91 mark of 68 career goals for fifth place on the all-time scoring list, will — unlike any of his open-goal shots — certainly be missed.

Jeff Patterson

Christy Glimckie '08 will have to sit out his senior season of play because he was caught with a bottle of Miller Lite on the Dayton Arena ice during the NESCAC Championship game.

Zebras find African gems under the ice

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

attention of the U.S. Government and the United Nations, both of whom sent undercover agents to the Middlebury campus. Tests were conducted and the results showed that the referees had only discovered a small part of a large stash.

Within days, more and more secret agents mapquested the zip code 05753.

While their identity was supposed to remain secret, the heightened security at Middlebury events, most notably at Brainerd's $6,000 Party where security outnumbered students nearly 10:1, gave rise to the notion that a non-college presence was indeed abundant in Addison County.

Until the border bust, the agents' work had been under severe scrutiny as their list of potential suspects was not only short, but also ludicrous.

Suspects included former President of the college, John McCardell. The reasoning being that the profit from the diamond smuggling could easily have funded his hair, which takes meticulous work, inordinate hours and many hands to style.

The Middlebury Campus was also suspected, as their organization remains in dire need of more funding for newer computers, equipment and salaries for their hard-working editors.

The "Ross Toucher" was also cited as a potential suspect.

Thus, when MiddShift was detained at the border of the U.S. and Canada, ease was met with surprise. Order seemed to be restored to Addison County, but tension still lingered.

The question on everyone's mind was what would bring MiddShift to such drastic actions?

The question remains unanswered, however, as members of MiddShift at the College as well as those currently incarcerated at a federal prison in Williamstown, Mass. have remained silent throughout interrogations.

Speculations arose that MiddShift, in dire need of funding to support their environmentally-friendly campus renovations, had resigned to smuggling.

MiddShift is now also the primary suspect in the mystery of the dwindling supply of cafeteria plates, coffee mugs and drinking glasses.

Jeff Patterson

This photo has led cross country carnival committees all over the country to require teams to sign binding contracts.

The Carnival's conspiraski theory

By Brooke Farquhar
Sports Editor

The verdict is in, and Bread-Loaf's reputation has been sliced.

With the surfacing of indisputable photo evidence, it appears that Middlebury's Winter Carnival weekend, which took place in February was not all fun and games. In fact, it got down right dirty and cheap out on the cross country course.

All season long, underdogs St. Lawrence and Middlebury worked themselves to exhaustion attempting to catch number one-seeded Dartmouth. But who would have thought student-athletes at such reputable schools would cross lines of dignity before they crossed the finish?

"We worked hard all season and couldn't get it done," said Matt Johnson '08. "Teaming up with St. Lawrence was the only way we thought we could bring Dartmouth down."

The photo evidence above is teeming with dirty teamwork. Seconds before the start, Johnson instructed a Saints' skier to plant his pole down on a Dartmouth skier's binding, giving the other teams valuable head starts.

"I looked down and couldn't believe it," said Dartmouth skier Ima Beddadanu. "Fortunately we've incorporated training for such potential incidents into our Monday practices and we're prepared for completing courses on only one ski. I quickly recovered."

Johnson could not believe that Beddadanu was still skiing by him on one leg. Then anger got the best of him. Mass binding breaking ensued.

"I don't know what came over me," said Johnson. "I couldn't believe he was still beating me on one leg, so I looked for the next best Dartmouth target and started a free-for-all."

"Who knew Dartmouth actually trained for such potential conspiracies in their practices?" said St. Lawrence skier Nadda Sogoud. "Things just totally fell apart."

While there is no photo of the Darmouth team finishing first, all on one leg, the memory will forever stain the minds of the contestants. Especially since they now have to sign the new legally binding "binding contract."

Upset at such a coarse plot on the cross country course, the Carnival committee now requires teams to sign contracts, thereby promising not to tangle with the bindings of fellow skiers during the race.

The always-liberal UVM ski team has refused to sign anything involving the word "binding," so a "don't-mess-with-the-mechanism-that-attaches-the-skier's-boot-to-the-ski" contract is underway. Lawyers have yet to figure out how they will draft the wording of the contract to the Catamount team without using the word binding.

Without a doubt, the double-crossing cross country ski teams are getting a lot of attention for their aggressive attack. While most Middlebury skiers claim they have, "too much work to comment," St. Lawrence's Sogoud had this to say: "No, I don't think [our namesake] Saint Lawrence would have cheated. But I also don't think he skied much."

Hockey captain goes down with the sip

By Jeff Patterson
Sports Editor

The NESCAC league office issued an official statement Wednesday saying that Christy Glimckie '08 has been suspended for the entire upcoming 2007-2008 hockey season. The recent Middlebury captain, who had been on pace to break countless Panther records, broke strict league rules when he was caught with an open container of Miller Lite, on the open ice, in the dimly lit Dayton Arena, during the March 4's championship game against Bowdoin.

"All referees are really cracking down on it this year," said Glimckie. "We have just got to be a little smarter."

Now the Ottawa native has to serve an athlete's version of capital punishment.

"That kind of thing is surprising," said Assistant Coach John Dawson '04. "I don't know if Coach [Beaney] expected what he did, but that's just the way it developed."

Just about everyone enrolled in a NESCAC school understands that, "the consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages at the site of competition is strictly prohibited." Those are in fact the exact words in the upper left-hand corner of your program, but Glimckie — like his remarkable vision on the ice — has proved to be an exception.

"We had a lot of wounded soldiers," said senior Brett Shirreffs, who was on the bench when Glimckie's bottle was discovered out on the ice.

"It was just a matter of time," added Casey Ftorek '08.

As goalie Doug Raeder '09 recalls, "There was just silence. It was so weird. We just stopped and went to our benches."

"Two guys jumped on him," said Jamie McKenna '09.

"I kind of blacked out on what happened," said Glimckie.

"We stayed on the bench. We were told we couldn't go into our locker room," said Shane Mandes '10. "The other team went to the locker room, but we stayed on the ice."

After recently reviewing countless videotapes, which showed evidence of the offensive-minded forward offering the off-limits beverage to a teammate, offish NESCAC officials issued a mandate substantially lengthening Glimckie's off-season. Needless to say, the awful news could not come at a worse time.

With the loss of seniors John Sales, Shirreffs, Yev Saidachev, Richie Fuld, Eric LaFreniere and Darwin Hunt to graduation — and now Glimckie to suspension — the team

See Drinking light, page 15

Jeff Patterson

Referees Alex O'Brien and Nichols Prim recently discovered conflict diamonds under the ice at Chip Kenyon '85 Arena.

Conflict diamonds create conflict

By Simon Keyes
Sports Editor

In a shocking turn of events, suspects have been detained in the mystery of the conflict diamonds found in the ice of Chip Kenyon '85 Arena. The suspects, identified only as members of Middlebury's environmental awareness group MiddShift, were arrested by border patrol at the checkpoint between the United States and Canada.

The diamonds were discovered hidden in the udders of cows by border patrolman Greg Durant. At the time, the cows were being towed in a trailer and thus were in clear sight of the perspicacious Durant.

"I grew up working with cows and when I saw those heifers in the trailer, I immediately knew something was up," said Durant. "The udders I grew up milking were always smooth, but these udders were bumpy and a little too misshapen."

Following his hunch, Durant held the drivers at the border until the MSPCA arrived and were able to safely inspect the contents of the udders — in this case very valuable diamonds.

The conflict diamonds in Kenyon Arena were first discovered only moments before the quarter-final hockey game between Middlebury and UMass-Dartmouth by a referee who tripped over a tender patch of ice during warm-ups.

Maintenance crews were summoned and noticed that the patch had been dug out and filled with ice shavings and that within the shavings lay the diamonds.

The diamonds were then brought to the local jewelers who were shocked to discover that the jewels were indeed conflict diamonds, likely from Sierra Leone.

The unearthing of the diamonds came immediately to the

See Zebras find, page 15

By the Numbers

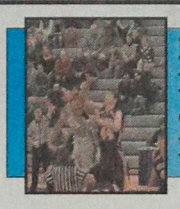
1	Fun time the men's golf team had in Pinehurst, N.C. over spring break.
16	Out of 17 face-offs won by Pete Mellen '07 in the March 18 lacrosse game against Connecticut College. He also scored the game-winning goal.
18	Official saves by Alex Palmisano '07 against Springfield College on March 21, as he only let up three goals all game — his lowest total in ten games.
9	Losses out of its total 11, for the Middlebury baseball team, when it played away from Forbes Field last year.
12	Spaces in the trophy case that are taken up by NESCAC lacrosse trophies.

this week in sports

Inside the Locker Room: James Kerrigan
Who knows the Beirut player better? page 15

game to watch

Baseball vs. Mount Holyoke, April 1 at 7:05



Men's basketball wins:
Despite losing vision in one eye, Evan Thomspon led the Panters to victory, page 15